



# **The Puerto Rico Address Data Working Group (PRADWG)**

**of the  
Federal Geographic Data Committee  
Address Subcommittee**

July 2020

# PRADWG Background



**Disaster  
Recovery and  
Preparedness**



**Hurricanes  
Irma and Maria**

**2017**



**Unique Diversity  
in Puerto Rico's  
Addressing  
System**



**Puerto Rico  
Address Data  
Workshop**

**2018**



**Puerto Rico  
Address Data  
Working Group**

**2019**

# Why this Working Group?

Various intergovernmental entities have identified the need for an inclusive federal government conversation about the collection and management of Puerto Rico addresses.



Federal Puerto Rico Address  
Data Stakeholders



Subcommittee on Disaster  
Reduction



Federal Geographic Data  
Committee Address Subcommittee



October 2018

## **Puerto Rico Address Data Workshop**

Whether fulfilling the mission to distribute aid after a disaster, enumerate and tabulate the population, or deliver mail on-time, many government entities have a stake in managing PR address data in order to meet their respective mission objectives



# Participating Agencies



FEMA





# Purpose Statement

**The Puerto Rico Address Data Working Group Purpose Statement:**

- **Promotes agency collaboration, transparency, and strategic prioritization in the federal address collection and management process for PR**
- **Documents use cases representing the various agency requirements for collecting and maintaining PR address data**
- **Documents agency challenges in collecting and maintaining PR address data**
- **Aligns with the goals of the FGDC Address Theme and Subcommittee to contribute to the National Geospatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI).**

# Phase 1

## Proven Practices

**Prácticas Comprobadas para la Gestión de Datos de Direcciones de Puerto Rico**  
Grupo de Trabajo sobre Datos de Direcciones de Puerto Rico (PRADWG, por sus siglas en inglés)  
Informe para el Comité Federal de Datos Geográficos (FGDC)  
Subcomité de Direcciones  
27 de junio de 2019

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### Puerto Rico Address Data Resources

[Federal Geographic Data Committee \(FGDC\)](#)

[Free Community Site on the GeoPlatform](#)  
[Data Working Group \(PRADWG\)](#)

[ates Thoroughfare, Landmark, and Postal Address](#)  
[C Address Standard](#)

[Exchange Format \(CLOXF\) Standard](#)  
[Database \(NAD\) Schema](#)

[Puerto Rico Address Data](#)

[base](#)

[Data Interconnection Portal](#)

[USNG\) and Conversion Tool](#)  
[B/Line Shapefiles and TIGERweb Map Viewer and](#)

[ject Addressing Tools](#)  
[Website and GitHub Page](#)

[raphic Information Council \(NSGIC\)](#)  
[nsortium \(OGE\)](#)  
[Information Systems Association \(URISA\)](#)

These resources and tools can be found at:  
[platform.gov/ngda-address/puerto-rico-address-data-working-group/](#)

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**Federal Data Strategy**  
Leveraging Data as a Strategic Asset

[About](#) [Federal Data Strategy](#) [Action Plans](#) [Progress](#) [Resources](#) [News](#) [Contact](#)

## Agencies Mobilize to Improve Emergency Response in Puerto Rico through Better Data

July 26, 2019



# Challenges Identified in Phase 1



The majority of Puerto Rico addresses do not match the conventional city-style format, which makes it difficult for Census IT systems to match data unless they have some customizations in place.



The challenge is not only in getting addresses, but also building footprints, parcel outlines, population data, etc. to combine into a database that can be used in modeling disaster scenarios to research mitigation and recovery needs. All of this data is much easier to access on the mainland than it is on the island.



The challenge was to send out claim checks without mailing addresses.



Addresses are needed as part of disaster recovery assistance, but not all structures have unique, findable addresses. Claims are linked to an address so multiple residences using the same address would get denied. Also need addresses to be able to find structures to assess.



USPS has a hard time maintaining a complete database of all mailable addresses in Puerto Rico.



Inadequate data on the location of assets and tenants inhibits HUD's ability to conduct research, evaluation, and monitoring activities on its programs.

# Top 3 Proven Practices

Recognizing the differences in Puerto Rico addresses and accounting for them in the data model (e.g., adding urbanizacion name field).

Standardizing and cleaning the data whether through manual or automated methods.

Validating the data through fieldwork or a source such as the US Postal Service.

## Recommendations

Recommend that all federal agency Puerto Rico address data stakeholders adopt one or more of the proven practices identified in this report, especially the top three proven practices.

Request that federal agencies publish their proven address data practices, tools, and procedures to an open platform.

Recommend a Phase II for the PRADWG to document federal agency requirements for Puerto Rico address data.



## Phase 2

**Objective: Identify Agency Challenges in Using and Managing Puerto Rico Address Data**

**Methodology: Use of a Questionnaire and Interviews to Capture Information**

**Outcome: Phase 2 Report**

# Questionnaire

- What are your agency's challenges with managing Puerto Rico address data?
- Are your challenges usually associated with single, isolated events in Puerto Rico (such as a natural disaster or emergency) or are these associated with an ongoing program managed by your agency?
- If the latter, how long has this program existed?
- How do these challenges negatively impact your agency's mission in Puerto Rico? Provide additional information not stated above (optional).
- Which category or categories best describe these challenges? Choose all that apply.
  - o Data Management (e.g. data hygiene, standards, currency)
  - o Resources (e.g. personnel and budget)
  - o Source Data (e.g. no open data, data is unusable, data is incomplete)
  - o Sharing (e.g. impediments within or across agencies, privacy, and/or legal constraints)
  - o Other

# Follow-up Interviews

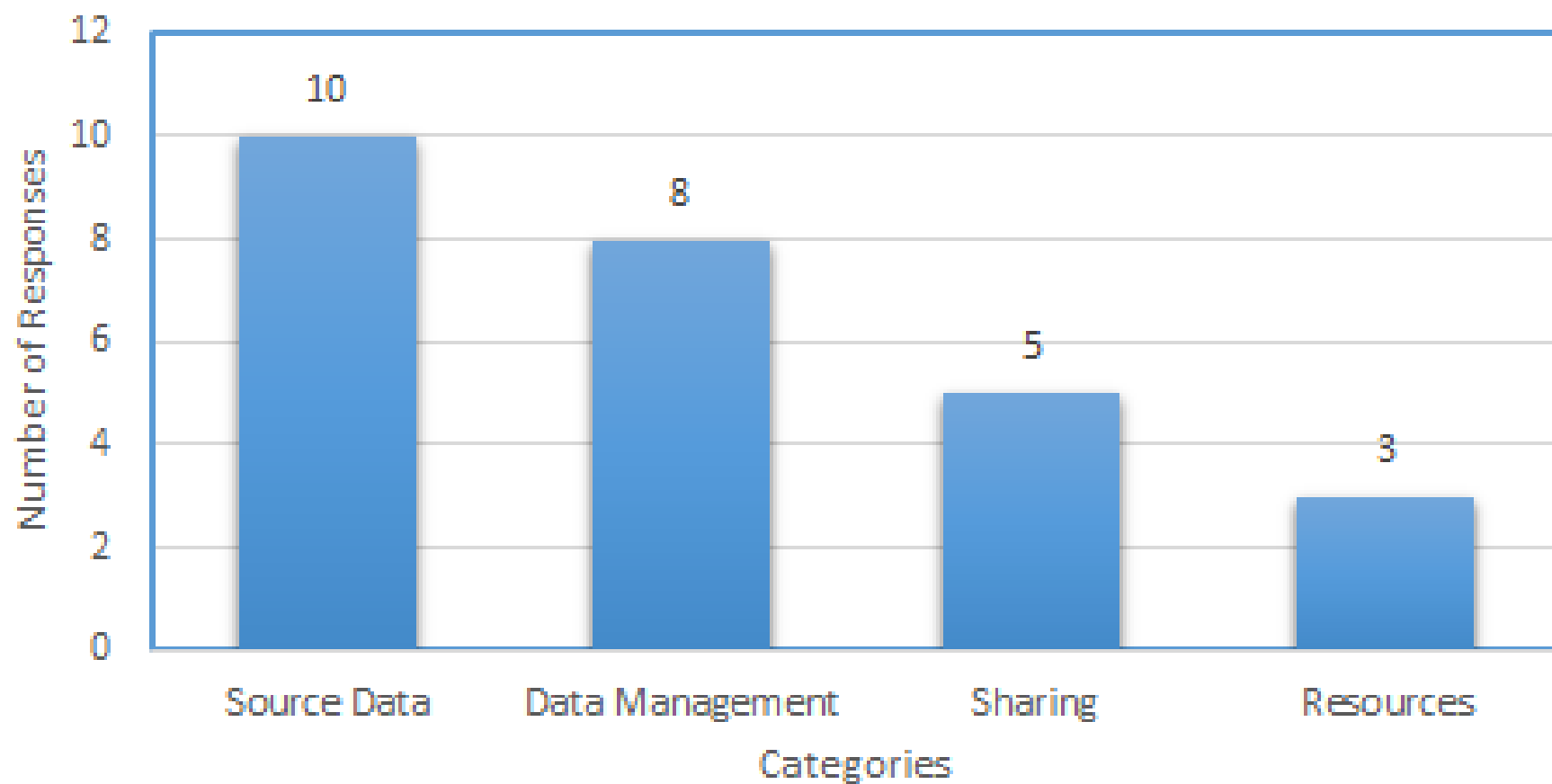
- If you were to rate the challenge's impact, would you consider it a high, medium, or low impact to your program?
- If you were to categorize the impact stated above, which of the following would you choose?
  - o Increased Cost
  - o Decreased Quality
  - o Increased Time
  - o Decreased Customer Experience/Service



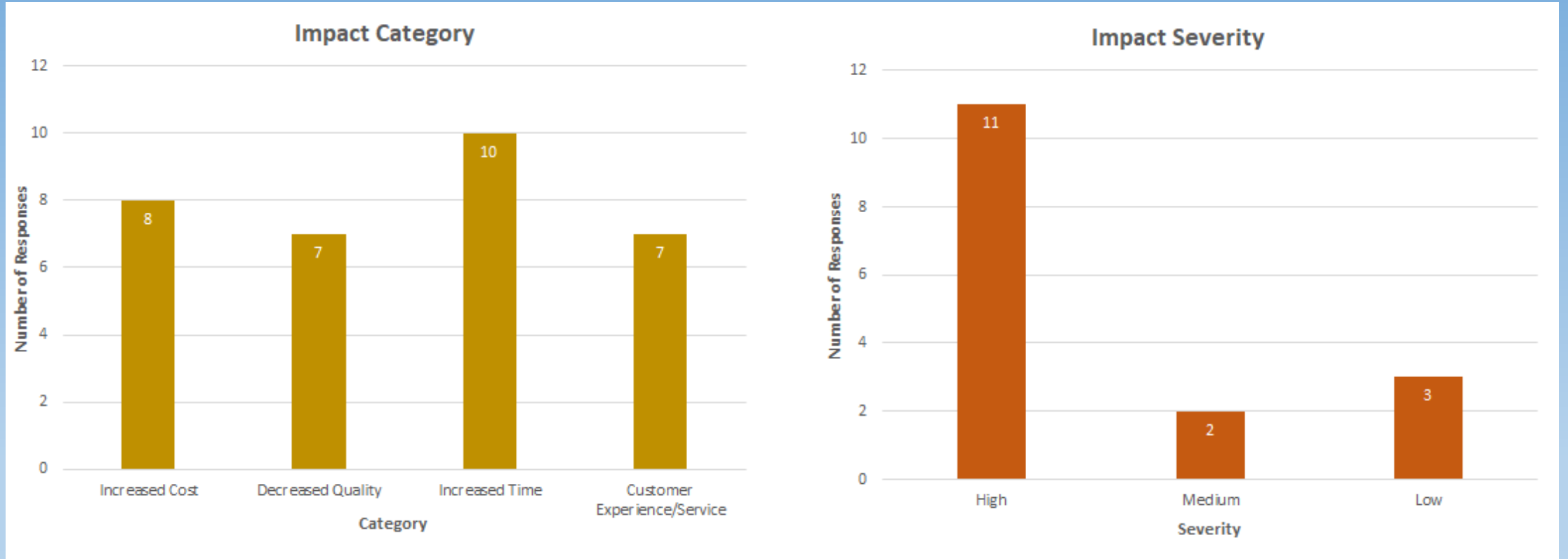
# Findings

- **Agency Use Cases**
  - Mission Planning/Decision Making
  - Disaster Recovery
  - Geolocation
  - Mailing Lists
- **Agency Use of Standards**
  - Half of the agencies use a published address standard
    - USPS Publication 28
    - The FGDC Address Standard

## Agency Challenges



# Impacts of Address Data Issues





# Puerto Rico Address Data Projects

- Puerto Rico Planning Board - Standardized Puerto Rico Integrated Intelligence Geographic Systems (sPRIInGS)
- Initiative for Civic Address Systems Assessment in Puerto Rico (iCasaPR)
  - Puerto Rico Civic Address Vulnerability Evaluation (PRCAVE)
  - Address Data Pilot Projects with Municipios

# Next Steps

- Promote open data and standardization policies as models for the development of an open address database for Puerto Rico.
- PRADWG Phase 3
  - Gather federal agency requirements to improve the management of Puerto Rico address data.

# For More Information On The PRADWG

- **Address Data Community**
  - <https://communities.geoplatform.gov/ngda-address/>
- **Puerto Rico Address Data Working Group**
  - <https://communities.geoplatform.gov/ngda-address/puerto-rico-address-data-working-group/>
- **PRADWG and the Federal Data Strategy**
  - <https://strategy.data.gov/proof-points/2019/07/26/pradwg/>



Thank You To the PRADWG  
Agency Participants!